

**From:** Curtis, Jennifer  
**Sent time:** 01/28/2014 10:55:58 AM  
**To:** Szerlog, Michael  
**Cc:** Meade, Chris; LaCroix, Matthew; Fauver, Becky; Reichgott, Christine  
**Subject:** RE: Adding Juneau Access to briefing sheet need edits to excerpt ASAP

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**Chris or others may want to add. I am still waiting to hear back on the anticipated schedule for the public Draft SEIS and Final SEIS.**

**Juneau Access Improvements Project:** Project is to improve surface transportation between Juneau, Haines and Skagway (increase traffic volume & frequency, decrease travel time). ADOT and FHWA have initiated a second supplemental EIS to update project alternatives (in response to court decision requiring stand-alone alternative for improved Alaska Marine Highway System assets) and cost estimates; further evaluate project impacts and mitigation measures; and identify Alternative 2B (East Lynn Canal Hwy to Katzeihin with shuttles to Haines and Skagway) as its preferred alternative. EPA and the Corps are cooperating agencies and recently received the PDSEIS for a 30-day review. ADOT has applied for a new permit (Corps determined previously approved permit was no longer valid) for Alternative 2B. DSEIS is expected this spring. Current concerns include compliance with the 2008 Final Compensatory Mitigation Rule as well as inadequate analysis of impacts in original EIS and first supplemental EIS, particularly for impacts to Berner's Bay. EPA rated both original Draft EIS and first Draft SEIS EO-2, although Final SEIS did address most of our concerns. We also sent 3(a) & 3(b) letters to the Corps on the Public Notice issued with the Supplemental EIS.

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**From:** Szerlog, Michael  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2014 9:24 AM  
**To:** Curtis, Jennifer; Meade, Chris; Fauver, Becky; LaCroix, Matthew  
**Cc:** Reichgott, Christine  
**Subject:** Adding Juneau Access to briefing sheet need edits to excerpt ASAP

I used text from the Large Projects call and some from previous briefing docs. Seems like the text needs updating regarding the timeframe for the SEIS?

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1. **Juneau Access Transportation Project:** On September 14, 2011 the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) announced that it will begin the process with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to complete a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Juneau Access Improvements project. The main purpose of the project is to improve surface transportation between Juneau, Haines and Skagway (increase traffic volume & frequency, decrease travel time). The SEIS will fully evaluate a stand-alone alternative that improves service in Lynn Canal using existing AMHS assets. The supplemental EIS will also update the Final EIS reasonable alternatives and will address changes in applicable laws, regulations, and approvals. DOT&PF anticipates the SEIS process will take approximately two years, with a draft SEIS released in late 2012, a final SEIS released in mid 2013, and a new Record of Decision (ROD) approved later that year. DOT&PF has contracted with the firm HDR Alaska, Inc. to prepare the SEIS and many of the required supporting documents.

- **Project History:** In 1997- DEIS. EPA rates DEIS as "EO-2" based on aquatic impacts and poor analysis; in 2005- SDEIS. EPA rates SDEIS as "EO-2" for similar reasons; in 2006- FEIS & ROD. FHWA decides to build Alternative 2B. Corps issues 404 public notice. EPA sends Corps 3(a) & 3(b) letters. 2 interagency meetings held to discuss EPA's comments; and in 2007, 2008- Corps works with ADOT, FHWA & EPA to address EPA's comments.

- **Status:** PDSEIS for Cooperating Agency review expected January 2014 with a DSEIS expected

February 2014.

Thanks

*Michael J. Szerlog*, Manager

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